

## Loudoun County, Virginia

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Office of the County Administrator

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May 4, 2007

James Dumbrell  
President  
Neersville Volunteer Fire Company 16  
11762 Harper's Ferry Road  
Hillsboro, VA 20132

Dear Mr. Dumbrell:

Thanks for meeting with Supervisor Clem, Chief Pozzo and me on March 26, 2007 with regard to the future changes at Company 16. As you know, this meeting followed earlier but separate meetings with Chief Pozzo, Supervisor Burton and Supervisor Clem.

This letter summarizes our discussions with you and some Company 16 officers during the past year and a half regarding the shifting responsibilities for Neersville Fire and the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Service with respect to service delivery and operations at the Neersville Fire Station. This letter begins the effort to move things forward with respect to Company 16 and is at the behest of Supervisor Clem.

As you now know, the Board of Supervisors adopted the fiscal year 2008 county operating and capital budget at its April 17, 2007 business meeting. Supervisor Clem initiated, and Supervisor Burton seconded, a unanimously adopted motion to include within the county's FY 2008 budget \$140,000 and 4.48 full-time equivalent positions for career 24/7 ambulance staffing at the station property. This staff will begin on or about February 2008 as requested. It was requested by Company 16, as well as many of the Neersville and Between-the-Hills community residents.

As we discussed, it is our goal to have the remaining amount of Company 16's FY 2007 county contribution (i.e., net any expenditures paid on behalf of your company by the county) sent to your company as expeditiously as possible. Company 16's FY 2008 contribution will be lowered to recognize the changing responsibilities for Company 16 with respect to the station and operations. As with any annual budget request, all future county contribution amounts will be subject to annual appropriations made by the Board of Supervisors as required by State law.

As we discussed, the staff wishes to bring forward to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration our discussion of transferring title of any parcels and/or improvements and personal property owned or held by the Neersville Volunteer Fire Company 16, or its holding companies for the interim purpose of continuing to provide fire and emergency services with career personnel. In theory, these services will continue at this station until the new fire and rescue station planned within the county's adopted capital improvement program is constructed and fully operational.

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Subject to the Board of Supervisors' priorities and decision, the former station facility and property deeded to the County would then be programmed for other purposes such as a community center etc., and only if acceptable to the community-at-large.

The county also requests that Company 16 officers and its membership written acknowledgement that station command will transfer to the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services no later than January 1, 2008. County Attorney staff and Chief Pozzo are preparing any necessary documents to serve as a mechanism for making this happen.

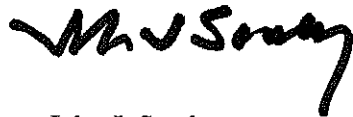
Staff remains committed to bring forward to the Board, staff proposals, either through the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services, and/or the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, to accommodate any programs or space requirements that Company 16 has graciously provided to the Neersville/Between-the-Hills communities (e.g., monthly luncheons and meeting space etc) over the years.

Supervisors Burton and Clem, as well as Chief Pozzo and I, would be grateful for any opportunity to meet with you, your fellow officers, or Company 16's members at any time, in addition to any other community groups that you believe play integral part in the Neersville or Between-the-Hills communities concerning the new staffing, changes in station operations, transition of properties, or the future county contributions to Company 16.

I seek your acknowledgement of this letter and your acceptance and agreement of the elements outlined within this letter by May 11, 2007, if possible. My goal is to inform the Board's Public Safety Committee at its May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of our discussions and provide them a tentative schedule to move these events forward as a process for changing the operations for Company 16 and its station.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, or concerns that you may have with regard to this letter. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Sandy".

John J. Sandy  
Assistant County Administrator  
County of Loudoun, VA

cc: Members of the Board of Supervisors  
Kirby M. Bowers, County Administrator  
Chief Joseph Pozzo, Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services  
Chairman Doug Rambo, Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Commission